

Application No. 10/799,728
Amendment dated September 23, 2005
Reply to Office Action of June 23, 2005

Docket No.: 2846-0307PUS1

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached hereto are two (2) sheets of corrected drawings that comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.84. The corrected drawings incorporate the following drawing changes:

In Figs. 5A and 6A, the exploded view has been revised.

It is respectfully requested that the corrected drawings be approved and made a part of the record of the above-identified application.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-14 are now present in this application.

The specification and claims 1, 2 and 7 have been amended, claim 6 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 13 and 14 have been presented. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The drawings stand objected to because of the way the exploded view of Figs. 5A and 6A was previously shown. New drawings for Figs. 5A and 6A are attached herewith, which should overcome this objection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the drawing objection and approval of the attached corrected drawings are respectfully requested.

The specification stands objected to because of an informality on page 7. Because this has now been addressed, it is respectfully requested that this objection now be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Because the Examiner's suggestion has been followed, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection should be overcome. Withdrawal of the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Tung, U.S. Patent 6,869,058. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Tung in view of Harris, U.S. Patent 5,711,331. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner considers claims 10 and 12 to contain allowable subject matter. New claims 13 and 14 have been presented with the limitations of claims 12 and 10, respectively. As such, these new claims 13 and 14 should be in condition for allowance. Also, claim 1 should also be in condition for allowance.

Limitations from original claim 6 have now been incorporated into claim 1. This claim 6 was rejected by a combination of the Tung and Harris patents. The Tung blocks are mounted under the cover (14 and 24) and cannot overlap more blocks to bear against the wind. The Harris pin and key are mounted separately. The present invention, however, uses a spring bias pawl mounted to the post of the umbrella to thereby couple the umbrella to the stand, and the pin is clipped between the post and the pawl by spring force. In Harris, the arrangement is simply to push the pin in a hole of the post. Therefore, the Harris arrangement would not teach the claimed arrangement of independent claim 1. The Tung reference also does not teach this feature. As such, the 35 USC 103 rejections should now be overcome and withdrawn. All claims in the instant application should now be in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: September 23, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Attachments

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